

# Merrill Lake High Water Clean Up

April 29, 2006



**Who:** The Washington State Department of Natural Resources is actively seeking local user groups and any other volunteers who enjoy scenic outdoor activities.

**Where:** Merrill Lake Campground

**When:** Saturday, April 29 from 9am – 2pm

**Why:** To prepare for opening Merrill Lake Campground. If the campground is cleaned up sooner, we may be able to open earlier.

**What needs to be done:** Large logs that were moved during the high water at Merrill Lake need to be removed from the trails and parking areas. Small woody debris needs to be raked from trails, campsites, and parking areas. Border wood needs to be re-installed along ADA trails, picnic sites in the day use area, and along a tent pad site in the campground. Gravel needs to be spread on the ADA trails, the approaches to the day use bridge, picnic sites, and some campsites. The day-use parking area also needs to be smoothed out.

## Tools/equipment DNR will bring:

- **Excavator** to move larger logs and smooth out day use parking area.
- **Quad and Rock Trailer** for moving rock.
- **Log grabbers** to move larger woody debris.
- **Leaf blower** to clear trails and campsites of storm debris.
- **Sledgehammers** for pounding in border wood stakes.
- **Chainsaws** to cut logs into manageable sizes and for border wood use.
- **Hammers and drills** to re-install border wood.

## Tools/equipment we need:

- **Tractors** will be helpful in transporting and spreading gravel on trails, picnic sites, and campsites.
- **Wheelbarrows** will be helpful in removing woody debris from parking areas, and spreading gravel in tight areas.
- **Rakes** (leaf & metal rakes) will be essential to removing small woody debris and spreading gravel.
- **Shovels** will be helpful in spreading gravel where needed.

We recommend bringing two sets of gloves, boots, rain gear, layered clothing, lunch, and water. If you are able to bring a tractor, wheelbarrow, rake, or shovel please let us know. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact Shayne Cothorn, Public Use and Stewardship Forester for the Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region, at (360) 577-2025, or e-mail [Shayne.Cothorn@wadnr.gov](mailto:Shayne.Cothorn@wadnr.gov).

### Directions to Merrill Lake Campground from I-5:

From Woodland on I-5, take Exit 21 for Highway 503. Drive east on SR 503 for 29 miles (past Jacks Store towards Cougar). Turn left onto USFS 7600 (large sign for Merrill Lake), which changes to USFS 8100 (FS 81) and drive 4.5 miles. Turn left onto the access road, there is a large Merrill Lake campground sign, and continue down into the campground.

